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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/779,092	02/08/2001	William C. Hardy	RIC-00-031	1671
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25537 7590 04/11/2002

WORLD COM, INC.
TECHNOLOGY LAW DEPARTMENT
1133 19TH STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

EXAMINER

TAYLOR, BARRY W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2643

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2002

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/779,092

Applicant(s)

HARDY, WILLIAM C.

Examiner

Barry W Taylor

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-61 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-61 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4. 6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hollier et al (6,304,634 hereinafter Hollier) in view of Malvar (6,256,608).

Regarding claims 1, 18, 29, 37, 49 and 61. Hollier teaches a system and method of evaluating quality in a telephonic voice connection (Title, abstract) in a telecommunication network, comprising:

a measuring circuit operative to measure at least one characteristic of the telephonic voice connection (Title, abstract, col. 1 lines 8-67, col. 2 lines 16-67, col. 3 lines 1-60, col. 4 lines 1-67, col. 5 lines 12-65, col. 6 lines 1-67, col. 7 line 25 – col. 16 line 34); and

a processor coupled to the measurement circuit, the processor being operative to calculate a solution to at least one empirically derived mathematical function by using the at least one measured variable in the at least one empirically derived mathematical function, whereby the solution is an estimate of likely user perception of the quality of the telephonic voice connection (Title, abstract, col. 1 lines 8-67, col. 2 lines 16-67, col. 3 lines 1-60, col. 4 lines 1-67, col. 5 lines 12-65, col. 6 lines 1-67, col. 7 line 25 – col. 16 line 34).

Hollier does not explicitly show the at least one measured characteristic as an independent variable.

Malvar teaches a system and method for real time parametric modeling for a probability distribution function that approximates the users perception of the quality of a voice connection (abstract, columns 1-4, col. 5 lines 30-67, columns 7-12, col. 13 line 43 – col. 16 line 66, col. 18 line 50+). Malvar discloses using a modified probability distribution model wherein the shape is controlled by a single parameter, which is directly related to the peak value of the coefficients (columns 19-22) thus minimizing computational overhead for model selections.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the codec as taught by Hollier to utilizes a modified exponential probability density fitting function as taught by Malvar so that codec may use a simple algorithm controlled by a single parameter to represent the probability density function as taught by Malvar.

Regarding claims 2-9, 19-22, 31-33, 38, 42-48, 50-53. Hollier does not explicitly show using one empirically derived mathematical probability distribution function.

Malvar teaches a system and method for real time parametric modeling for a probability distribution function that approximates the users perception of the quality of a voice connection (abstract, columns 1-4, col. 5 lines 30-67, columns 7-12, col. 13 line 43 – col. 16 line 66, col. 18 line 50+). Malvar discloses using a modified probability distribution model wherein the shape is controlled by a single parameter, which is

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directly related to the peak value of the coefficients (columns 19-22) thus minimizing computational overhead for model selections.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the codec as taught by Hollier to utilizes a modified exponential probability density fitting function as taught by Malvar so that codec may use a simple algorithm controlled by a single parameter to represent the probability density function as taught by Malvar.

Regarding claims 10, 26, 34, 39-41. Hollier teaches at least one characteristic is echo and delay (col. 1 lines 15-67, col. 2 lines 30-67, columns 5-6).

Regarding claims 11, 27, 35. Hollier teaches a packet switch network (#20 figure 1).

Regarding claim 12, 28, 36. Hollier teaches a circuit switch network (#20 figure 1).

Regarding claim 13, 30. Hollier teaches a network interface (see interface between #30 and #40 figure 2).

Regarding claims 14. Hollier teaches
a memory (#30, #40, #70 and #80 figure 2); and
an interface control circuit coupled to the memory (col. 9 lines 6-67, #30, #40, #70 and #80 figure 2).

Regarding claim 15. Hollier teaches a circuit switch device (#20 figure 1).

Regarding claim 16. Hollier teaches a packet switch device (#20 figure 1).

Regarding claim 17. Hollier teaches a telecommunication device (#20 figure 1).

Regarding claims 23-25. Hollier does not explicitly show one characteristic as an independent variable.

Malvar teaches a system and method for real time parametric modeling for a probability distribution function that approximates the users perception of the quality of a voice connection (abstract, columns 1-4, col. 5 lines 30-67, columns 7-12, col. 13 line 43 – col. 16 line 66, col. 18 line 50+). Malvar discloses using a modified probability distribution model wherein the shape is controlled by a single parameter, which is directly related to the peak value of the coefficients (columns 19-22) thus minimizing computational overhead for model selections.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the codec as taught by Hollier to utilizes a modified exponential probability density fitting function as taught by Malvar so that codec may use a simple algorithm controlled by a single parameter to represent the probability density function as taught by Malvar.

Regarding claim 54. Hollier teaches wherein the computer readable medium is selected form the group consisting of a dram, rom, prom, eeprom, a hard drive, or compact disk (columns 7-11, figures 1-5).

Regarding claims 55-58. Hollier teaches the telecommunications switching device coupled to the computer readable medium (see figures 1-2).

Regarding claim 59-60. Hollier teaches test quality measurement system (Title, abstract, figures 1-2).


Conclusion

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2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor whose telephone number is (703) 305-4811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on (703) 305-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Technology Center 2600 customer service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.


CURTIS KUNTZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600